

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE TRINIDAD CITY COUNCIL
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2015

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Mayor Fulkerson called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Council members in attendance: Miller, West, Fulkerson, Baker, Winnett.
- City Staff in attendance: City Manager Dan Berman, City Clerk Gabriel Adams, City Attorney Andy Stunich, City Engineer Josh Wolf.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

III. ADJOURNMENT TO CLOSED SESSION

1. Real Property Negotiations Pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8
Agency Negotiators, City Manager and City Attorney. Topic: Price and terms for property owned by Bob Crittenden adjacent to the Trinidad Water Treatment Plant, APNs: 515-121-18 and 515-121-34
2. Discussion regarding Active Litigation in the case of Tsurai Ancestral Society vs City of Trinidad; Pursuant to Government Code section 54956.9(b) and/or section 54956.95.

IV. RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

City Manager Berman reported that the Council approved the purchase a small parcel of land adjacent to the Water Treatment Plant to improve access to the facility for the amount of \$20,000. Two-Thirds of the cost will be covered by remaining grant funds available. The rest will come from the Water Fund.

V. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion (Miller/West) to approve the agenda as written. Passed unanimously.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – No minutes to approve

VII. COMMISSIONERS REPORTS

- Miller:** The Van Wycke trail is deteriorating rapidly and I support any effort to seek funding opportunities because the trail is invaluable to this community.
- West:** Attended HCOAG meeting. Updated on progress with bike/pedestrian trail on 101 from Braecut to Eureka, various billboard permits revoked, and repairs needed on the bay levee.
- Fulkerson:** Update on RREDC Executive Director hiring process, and upcoming Humboldt Lodging Alliance marketing campaign preview release party.
- Winnett:** Also noted the HLA marketing campaign party scheduled in March.
- Baker:** Nothing to report.

City Manager Berman: Highlighted and announced various updates, including:

- Budget workshop highlights. Hope to have a report by next Council meeting to guide budget process.
- Attended a Sea Level Rise/Climate Change meeting last week.
- Attended a FEMA meeting regarding update of local flood hazard mapping program. Only the Harbor will be affected.

VII: PROCLAMATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR

Katherine Wayne – Trinidad Chamber of Commerce

This year the Chamber will be limiting the number of meal tickets sold at the Fish Festival. There will be new food options, new ideas, and further details will be announced at the upcoming Chamber mixer. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Annalisa Rush – Trinidad Area Resident, & Fitness Instructor

Announced that she will be teaching a new Foundation Training fitness class at the Town Hall Monday & Thursdays 11:30-12:00. Open invitation.

Suzanne – Trinidad Artist & Resident

Explained how she has taken an interest in removing litter and trash from the beaches and tide pools. Claimed she picks up at least one grocery bag of trash every day, and is very concerned about crab pot debris and fishing material that is left behind to trash local beaches. (She demonstrated her collection by dumping a box of gathered

litter on a blanket in front of the Council on the floor, including a dead sea bird with fishing line strangling its neck). She had 3 banners made that contain phrases that she hoped would raise public awareness about the issue, and asked the Council to support them. The Council encouraged her to share them with the Rancheria for possible posting near the Harbor facilities. They also thanked her for her tireless efforts removing litter.

IX. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Financial Status Reports for January 2015
2. Consideration of approving a Health Reserve Account Benefit for City Employees.
3. Staff Activity Reports
4. Consider PARSAC payment request for damage claim against the City.

*Motion (West/Baker) to approve the consent agenda as submitted. **Passed unanimously.***

X. DISCUSSION AGENDA

1. Discussion/Decision regarding consideration of GHD Contract Amendment for Water Treatment Plant
City Manager Berman explained that in their role as City Engineer, GHD is under contract with the City for construction management in the ongoing upgrade of our Water Treatment Plant (WTP). This proposed contract Amendment will increase the budget available to GHD for these services by \$39,185.25.

The construction project was originally estimated for completion in 6 months. As of February 2015, the project has been on-going for over 12 months and is anticipated to take an additional 2 - 3 months to complete the remaining construction items as well as additional change order items expected.

The increase in time of completion of the project was due to a significant amount of work being added to the project to address unforeseen project conditions, to correct treatment plant deficiencies, and upgrade facilities to make the plant more reliable and allow the plant operators to better manage the plant. Approximately \$220,000 in change orders have been executed to date and an additional \$25,000 in change orders are expected to be issued in the immediate future. These change orders were funded out of project contingency funds.

City Engineer Josh Wolf displayed a series of before and after photos, and highlighted various aspects of the project. He further explained that in addition to the time increases, additional effort was expended evaluating the benefits of possible change orders, developing requests for quotes, coordinating changes (with the City, CDPH and the Contractor), reviewing submittals associated with change orders, overseeing the change order work in the field, and processing payment requests for change order work.

The change orders issued also need to be documented through construction as-builts/record drawings that are expected to take a significant additional effort. The funds for this amendment are covered within the existing grant funding from CDPH, so no additional cost to the City is proposed. The CDPH grant manager has already indicated her approval of these changes. These funds would be shifted from the contingency fund to the Contract fund in the existing grant agreement. Additional details are provided in the draft Contract Amendment

Council member comments:

Miller: Question about the recent notice water customers received about disinfection byproducts, and how these changes might relate to better water quality in the future. **Wolf** explained that this project will do exactly that - by allowing the city to not only improve the way it monitors the water it treats, but by allowing it to treat more settled water, thereby reducing the disinfection byproducts caused in the treatment process.

There was no public comment.

*Motion (Miller/West to authorize City Manager to sign contract amendment no. 3 for services with GHD Inc. for engineering and construction management associated with the Water Treatment Plant Upgrade Project. **Passed unanimously.***

2. Discussion/Decision regarding consideration of MOU for Electric Vehicle Charging Station at Saunders Park. City Manager Berman explained that Redwood Coast Energy Authority has secured a grant to install Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations in multiple locations in the County, including one in Trinidad. The Council previously voiced their support for this grant application, including a site in Trinidad.

RCEA Executive Director Matt Marshall explained that RCEA has identified a preferred site – the parking area in Saunders Park, as shown in the attachment to the Memorandum of Understanding. The charging station would require one site to be reserved for EVs, as shown on the site map. A second adjacent site would be 'preferred' but not reserved. This site was selected for multiple reasons: immediate proximity to the freeway, it's not typically overfull, (unlike the parking near Town Hall), and there is an electric panel available for connection on the Library.

RCEA will still need to go through the City permitting process for this construction work, but the MOU provides some basic certainty that the City agrees this is an appropriate location, and is willing to allow the project. It also protects the City via assurances regarding insurance. The Trinidad Coastal Land Trust is the underlying property owner. City Staff is communicating with the Land Trust and are expecting written confirmation from them prior to the meeting that this is allowable under the terms of our easement and lease agreement.

Council questions included:

Winnett: What happens when 20 people want the charging station at the same time? **Marshall** explained that would be highly unlikely, but the effort needs to start somewhere. This one charging station is designed to accept payment via credit card terminal, and users will be paying for their "fill up". We also looked at travel demand models to help determine use. One should be enough, for now.

Public comment included:

Lilliana (?) – Trinidad Area Resident

Owns a 100% electric Nissan Leaf. Travels 73 miles on a full charge. It is a different way of life, but linking stations up the north coast will not only add to the convenience of those of us who own electric vehicles, but also be great for tourists who travel by electric cars. Trinidad should get on board. There are more electric vehicles in Trinidad per capita than any other Humboldt County city.

The Council expressed support for this project and thanked RCEA for leading the way.

*Motion (Baker/Miller) to authorize City Manager to sign the attached MOU for an electric vehicle charging station at Saunders Park. **Passed unanimously.***

REQUEST FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. VDU amendments.
2. GIS system to use for housing inventory.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

- Meeting ended at 7:20pm.

Submitted by:

Gabriel Adams
City Clerk

Approved by:

Julie Fulkerson
Mayor